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December Programs at the Museum Focus on Pearl Harbor, Staging the *Abbey*



For images, follow this [Dropbox link](#). Captions and credits are listed after program descriptions.

December 1, 2021 (RALEIGH, N.C.) — This December marks the 80th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Join Military Collection Archivist Matthew Peek in an online program where he will discuss North Carolina's role in the event as well as in the days that followed. Plus, we continue with events surrounding the *Dressing the Abbey* exhibit. Learn all about the creative process of costume design from an Emmy Award-winning costume designer from *Downton Abbey*™. The museum and [Museum Shop](#) are open to the public with [special protocols in compliance with Executive Order 215](#). Admission is free! **Please note: The museum will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and December 26.**

Top Five Things to Do This Month

- Mark the 80th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor by listening to an [online program](#) with Matthew Peek, military collection archivist, State Archives of North Carolina.
- Explore the elements of daily life and combat aboard the battleship *North Carolina* during World War II with a [LIVE! program](#) with Beyond the Exhibits.

- Join an Emmy Award-winning costume designer from the television series *Downton Abbey*™ as she discusses her process for designing period costumes.
- Listen to the Raleigh Flute Choir help ring in the season in the Daniels Auditorium with some favorite holiday classics.
- Drop by the Museum Shop, or shop [online](#), to check off unique items for those on your holiday shopping list!

[Dressing the Abbey exhibition continues!](#) Experience original costumes worn by the stars of *Downton Abbey*™ that depict fashions of the British aristocracy in the early 20th century. The exhibition showcases the turbulence and changes in the late Edwardian era through the 1920s by means of the fashions of the period while evoking fans' favorite moments. This traveling exhibit will be on display at the North Carolina Museum of History through January 17, 2022.

Read on for a current listing of December events, and follow us on social media for updates and additional programming. You can also stay up to date on all events and exhibits at the museum website: ncmuseumofhistory.org. Programs are **FREE** unless otherwise noted. Advance registration, at ncmuseumofhistory.org/events, is generally required to receive a confirmation email with information about joining online presentations.

Did you miss a previous program? Many of the museum's programs are being archived to enjoy any time on the museum [YouTube](#) channel.

[Tar Heel Tales: Lighthouses and Shipwrecks](#)

Wednesday, Dec. 1, 1–2 p.m. via Demio
Ages 5 – 8

Ahoy! Learn about our state's lighthouses and why the water off our coast is called the "Graveyard of the Atlantic." Then listen and read along to *Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie* by Peter Roop. This virtual program is for individual children and families and is designed to make learning history fun and interactive!

[History and High Tea: From Concept to Screen](#)

Saturday, Dec. 4, 3 p.m. via Zoom

Join Susannah Buxton, Emmy Award-winning costume designer for *Downton Abbey*™, Seasons 1 and 2, and the *Downton Abbey* Christmas Special, as she discusses her creative process, particularly when designing period costumes. Buxton will explore the inspiration behind her award-winning creations, several of which are on display in the exhibition *Dressing the Abbey*. She will also share stories and designs from her illustrious career, including her work on the PBS series *Poldark*.

[LIVE! Battleship North Carolina: Community at Sea and in Battle](#)

Tuesday, Dec. 7, 10:15–11:15 a.m. via Vimeo

Virtually join [Beyond the Exhibits](#) from Battleship *North Carolina*—**LIVE!**—on Tuesday, December 7, as we explore elements of daily life and combat that crews faced aboard the battleship during World War II. When commissioned, on April 9, 1941, Battleship North Carolina was

considered the world's greatest sea weapon. The *North Carolina's* state-of-the-art technology at the time and its talented crew made this ship a pivotal part of Allied success in World War II. In fact, the vessel earned 15 battle stars—the most of any US Navy ship in the Pacific theater. During the war, 2,000 young men called *the North Carolina* home, including African American steward's mates and messmen, who served their country despite the Jim Crow norms in place. Join curators Earl Ijames, Kim Sincox, and Mary Ames Booker, along with museum educator Sally Bloom, as they explore BB-55, nicknamed “the Showboat.” Text in questions, and we'll answer them—*LIVE!* Sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina.

[History @ High Noon: December 1941: North Carolina Responds to Pearl Harbor](#)

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 12 p.m. via Zoom

Speaker: Matthew Peek, military collection archivist, State Archives of North Carolina. December 7, 2021, marks the 80th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor (Oahu Island, Hawaii), the event that drew the United States into World War II. North Carolinians were already serving in the nation's military, and several of them were present for the historic attack. Peek will share some of their stories, as well as talk about the reaction to the military assault back home. The morning after the attack, young men—some too young for military service—had lined up outside recruitment stations. Across the state, citizens of all backgrounds and ages banded together to support the war effort. Using primary sources from the State Archives collection, Peek will provide insights into how the events from eight decades ago continue to touch the lives of so many North Carolinians.

[History Adventures: Ships and Tar Heels](#)

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

Ages 9–12

How could a tree keep an empire afloat? What are naval stores? Learn about the longleaf pine and its huge role in our state's early history. And soap . . . and explosions! This virtual program is for individual children and families and is designed to make learning history fun and interactive!

[History + Highballs: Celebrating a Victorian Christmas with Körner's Folly](#)

Thursday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Presenter: Suzanna Ritz, operations and programs manager, Körner's Folly. Join us for a special holiday edition of History and Highballs as we take a virtual trip to Kernersville, where Suzanna Ritz, operations and programs manager for Körner's Folly, will give us an inside look at the traditional decorations that the Körner family used, as well as the seasonal food and drinks from the family cookbook, and show off the amazing decorations that volunteers put up in the past! Körner's Folly is a circa 1880 house museum built by artist and interior designer Julius “Jule” Körner. Suzanna Ritz holds a BA in Art History from Salem College and an MA in Arts Administration from the University of New Orleans. After teaching visual arts exploration in New Orleans charter schools through KID smART, an arts integration nonprofit, Ritz worked in museum education at the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, as a security guard at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, and in collections at the Museum of Storytelling and Engagement in Winston-Salem before landing her role at Körner's Folly in 2018, where her involvement ranges from wildlife capture and release to capital campaign fundraising.

History and Highballs is an early-evening, adults-only virtual program designed to investigate some of North Carolina's more fascinating stories, places, and characters. So grab a favorite evening libation and

tune in to these events. Not sure how to make a mixed drink or what drink to mix? The series includes a quick introduction on mixed drinks, alongside the historical lecture. Talks are accompanied with media, when available, and are followed by a short audience Q&A session.

Coffee with a Curator: Staging the Abbey

Tuesday, Dec. 14, 10–10:30 a.m. via Zoom

Set dressing is the art of selecting the props and furniture to add to a stage or television production to give it the correct appearance and make it seem more accurate. From creating mood boards to identifying design eras, learn how museum curators, such as presenter Michael Ausbon, curator of decorative arts, carefully researched and selected museum artifacts and other items to fashion the appropriate backdrops for *Dressing the Abbey*.

Raleigh Flute Choir Holiday Concert

Sunday, Dec. 19, 2 p.m. – Daniels Auditorium at the North Carolina Museum of History

The Raleigh Flute Choir, a chamber ensemble of nine professional flutists from central North Carolina, ushers in the holiday season with a flourish as they perform creative arrangements of familiar favorites and alluring original works that reflect the beauty and joy of the season. This unique chamber ensemble utilizes the entire flute family, from the tiny piccolo to the 8-foot contrabass, along with concert flutes, piccolo, alto and bass flutes. With four CDs to their credit and performances at such venues as the White House, National Flute Association conventions in Washington, DC, and Orlando (FL), Duke University Chapel, the Biltmore House, Colonial Williamsburg, and Piccolo Spoleto in Charleston (SC), the group has established itself as one of the nation's leading flute choirs. Please join us for this festive musical celebration! \$10 general admission, \$6 MOHA/museum members, \$6 students, \$6 Raleigh Area Flute Association members.

IMAGES: [Dropbox link](#), caption and credits

Image: Battleship North Carolina LIVE!

Credit: NC Museum of History

Image: Celebrating a Victorian Christmas with Körner's Folly

Credit: NC Museum of History

Image: From Concept to Screen

Credit: NC Museum of History

Image: Lighthouses and Shipwrecks

Credit: NC Museum of History

Image: Museum Building

Credit: NC Museum of History

Image: NCMOH logo

Credit: NC Museum of History

Image: Pearl Harbor
Credit: NC Museum of History

Image: Raleigh Flute Choir
Credit: Raleigh Flute Choir

Image: Staging the Abbey
Credit: NC Museum of History

For information about the NC Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate museum, call 919-814-7000 or access ncmuseumofhistory.org or follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [YouTube](#).

About the NC Museum of History

The North Carolina Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate, fosters a passion for North Carolina history. This museum collects and preserves artifacts of state history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. **Admission is free.** Before the COVID public closure, more than 465,000 people visited the museum annually to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

About the Smithsonian Affiliations Network

Since 2006, the North Carolina Museum of History has been a Smithsonian Affiliate, part of a select group of museums and cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share Smithsonian resources with the nation. The Smithsonian Affiliations network is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums and other educational and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. More information is available at affiliations.si.edu.

About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

The North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational, and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries, and natural assets in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums, and Jennette's Pier, as well as 39 state parks and recreation areas, the North Carolina Zoo, the nation's first state-supported symphonic orchestra, the State Library of North Carolina, the State Archives of North Carolina, the North Carolina Arts Council, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, and the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, along with the state Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, call 919-814-6800 or visit DNCR.nc.gov.

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